

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION SS-25

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O R 281459Z MAR 75
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6975
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 0721

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, IS
SUBJ: ISRAELI DESIRE TO RESTRICT ACTIVITIES OF CONGEN
JERUSALEM ON WEST BANK

REF: TEL AVIV 1809; JERUSALEM 0720

1. CONGEN RECORDS (LIMITED TO AIRGRAM CHRON FILE FOR PERIOD 1967-72) DO NOT SUPPORT GOI CONTENTION (PARA 7 TEL AVIV 1809) THAT CONGEN PERSONNEL FOR SOME TIME AFTER 1967 WAR WERE NOT PERMITTED TO CONTACT WEST BANK OFFICIALS AND THAT EMBASSY OFFICERS MADE SUCH CONTACTS THROUGH MFA. PERMITS WERE REQUIRED FOR TRAVEL ON WEST BANK OF ALL NON RESIDENTS OF WB, INCLUDING CONGEN PERSONNEL AND TRAVEL WAS AT TIMES RESTRICTED FOR CERTAIN AREAS (E.G. LATRUN SALIENT, AREAS ALONG JORDAN RIVER, QALQILYA) MAINLY FOR MILITARY REASONS. JERUSALEM'S A-54 OF OCTOBER 19, 1967 PROVIDES SOME DETAILS AND ALSO MAKES CLEAR WE RESISTED WHAT EFFORTS WERE MADE TO RESTRICT CONGEN TRAVEL ON W.B. AND ACCESS TO CERTAIN AREAS INCLUDING E.G. REFUGEE CAMPS. IT ALSO REPORTS MFA STATEMENT THAT RESTRICTIONS BEING IMPOSED WERE FOR PROTECTION OF CONSULAR OFFICERS IN VIEW OF TENSIONS IN AREAS.

2. JERUSALEM'S A-150 OF AUGUST 2, 1971 REPORTING ON KNESSET DISCUSSION OF ALLEGED ACTIVITIES OF FRENCH CONSUL GENERAL PROVIDES FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT IT HAS BEEN ROUTINE FOR CONGEN PERSONNEL TO MEET WITH W.B. RESIDENTS. LAST PARA STATES THAT FRENCH CG

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CONFIRMED HE HAS SEEN NUMBER OF ARAB NOTABLES BEFORE GOING TO

BEIRUT CONFERENCE. "JUST LIKE ALL OF US, HE IS IN CONTACT WITH SUCH PEOPLE AT ALL TIMES." REPORT ALSO RECOUNTS THAT MFA REPLIED IN KNESSET, INTEL ALIA, THAT FUNCTIONS OF FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES ARE DEFINED BY GOVERNMENTS WHO ASSIGN THEM AND THEY ACT ACCORDING TO THEIR DIRECTIVES TO THE EXTENT THAT THIS ACTIVELY DOES NOT VIOLATE LAW. MFA, WHICH WAS DEALING WITH QUERY WHETHER FRENCH CONGEN SHOULD NOT BE EXPELLED, SAID FURTHER THAT EXPULSION RESULTS FROM ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR AND CONVERSATIONS WITH THE INHABITANTS DID NOT CONSTITUTE ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR.

3. AIRGRAM FILES MAKE CLEAR CONGEN OFFICERS CONTINUED TO MEET WITH LOCAL LEADERS IN CITIES THROUGHOUT WEST BANK FROM PERIOD IMMEDIATELY AFTER 1967 DOWN TO PRESENT. FEW EXAMPLES OF REPORTS OF SUCH MEETINGS FOLLOW: A-7, JULY 26, 1967 REPORTING BETHLEHEM PETITION TO GOI, COPY OF WHICH GIVEN CONGEN OFFICER BY BETHLEHEM MAYOR DURING THEIR CONVERSATION; A-30 AUGUST 30, 1967 REPORTING CONGEN OFFICERS' CALL ON MAYOR OF RAMALLAH; A-72 AND A-73, NOVEMBER 21 AND 22, 1967 REPORTING CONGEN OFFICERS' CALLS ON MAYORS OF NABLUS AND HEBRON; A-99, JANUARY 5, 1968, REPORTING CONGEN OFFICER CALL ON NABLUS MAYOR; A-124; JANUARY 25, 1968 REPORTING CALL ON MAYOR OF JENIN.

4. POSSIBLE BUT UNLIKELY THAT SOME DEVELOPMENT ON SUBJECT MAY NOT BE COVERED IN LIMITED FILES WE HAVE FOR POST-1967 WAR PERIOD. DEPT. MAY WISH CHECK THIS WITH FORMER CG STEPHEN CAMPBELL, NOW ASSIGNED TO INSPECTION CORPS.
DAY

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